

Thank you for your interest in the *Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Clinical Mental Health Counseling*. Below is some helpful information to get you started.

To apply to the CAGS program, please click [here](#). Rowan Global collects your application information and sends the completed application to the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program. Once we have received your completed application, we will notify you within 2-3 weeks of a decision and/or if an interview, or additional information, is requested. **While, in some cases, courses may be taken as a non-matriculant, we highly recommend that you apply to be a matriculated CMHC CAGS student as soon as possible.**

The CAGS program cannot guarantee that your classes from your previous graduate training will be approved by a specific state's licensure board. Only the board can determine which classes will be approved to fulfill their requirements. For New Jersey, please review the [Application and Educational Requirements for the New Jersey Board of Professional Examiners](#).

As noted in the NJ LPC requirements, you must have completed 60 graduate credits from an accredited institution; have a master's or doctorate with the words "counselor" or "counselor education" in the title; and have completed classes fulfilling the 9 core content areas. Other states have different criteria.

We recommend you speak with an advisor from your *previous* graduate program to determine which classes would fulfill these 9 core content areas. It is often helpful to speak with other graduates from your previous program, as well, to find out which classes were approved by the licensure board. We can then give you some guidance regarding which classes may fit the requirements; however, only the licensure board can determine if the courses fit from other programs. The classes we offer in the CMHC CAGS program are indeed approved by the [New Jersey Board of Licensed Professional Counselors](#) to fulfill the content areas. We cannot guarantee if you take classes from other programs at Rowan (i.e. School Psychology, ABA), or at another institution, that they will be approved by the New Jersey Board of Licensed Professional Counselors. We can only speak on behalf of our curriculum.

*Rowan CES Students Only:* If your graduate masters was/is from the Counseling in Education Settings Program at Rowan, there is no need to ask your program if the classes are approved for the New Jersey State Board, as the classes are already cleared. CES students must take Psychopathology I as part of the CAGS sequence. Psychopathology II is **highly** recommended. These classes are focused on diagnoses and the DSM-5, which is not an area covered in CES, as per CES faculty. If you are applying to the CAGS program while completing the CES program, you must have completed at least 2 semesters of graduate study to enroll concurrently. Please also be sure to discuss with Rowan Global (previously CGCE) about applying as a "concurrent" student. You should complete the forms to be concurrently matriculated.

Once you have been accepted into the program, and once you have determined which courses you need to complete the core content areas, as well as meet the 60-credit requirement, the [Program Coordinator](#) can assist you in filling in the gaps with classes in our CAGS program and to register for classes. Some of the courses may have prerequisites, and some are only offered certain times of the year. We also offer electives on a rotating basis. Therefore, it is important to map out your course of study early.

**One final note: Classes do fill up very quickly. Please make sure to register the same day registration opens. We highly recommend that CAGS students begin taking classes in the Fall semester of each year. This means that registration for these classes would be held in January/February. It is, therefore, best to apply for CAGS before January, in order to try to enroll for Fall. Be sure to plan ahead so that there are spots open for the classes you wish to take.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have. I am happy to assist you in planning out your course of study, as well as be a resource for you throughout the program.

Best regards,

Ginean Crawford, MFT, LPC, NCC  
Coordinator, CAGS, Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
[Email Program Coordinator](#)